

8th February 1924]

(b) whether the Government have made enquiries into this matter and whether they propose to grant any remission for the loss sustained ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the second crops have completely failed in many parts of Malabar on account of the failure of the last north-east monsoon ; and

(d) whether they propose to grant any remission for the above loss ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the Collector's report dated 16th September 1923 printed in G.O. No. 1469, Revenue, dated 28th September 1923, which has already been placed on Editors' Table.

(c) The Government are aware that second crops have failed in some parts of Malabar on account of the failure of the north-east monsoon.

(d) Under the rules in Board's Standing Order No. 13, the Collector and the Jamabandi officer are competent to grant remission for loss of crops.

*Failure of crops in Malabar.*

304 Q.—MR. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that on account of unprecedented drought the second crop in Malabar has completely failed ;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps to ascertain the extent of the damage ; if not, whether they propose to do so ; and

(c) whether the Government propose to remit the assessment levied on such crops in the affected places ?

A.—(a) The Government are aware that the second crop has failed in parts of Malabar owing to the unfavourable character of the season.

(b) The Collector is making the necessary inquiries.

(c) Under the rules in the Board's Standing Order No. 13, the Collector and the Jamabandi officer are competent to grant remission for loss of crops.

**Public Works (Buildings).**

*Divisional offices at Devakottai.*

305 Q.—RAO BAHADUR A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Education and Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Divisional offices at Devakottai have been constructed in a place far removed from and with no proper communication with the town ;

(b) whether in selecting the site for the construction of the offices the convenience of the public was taken into consideration ;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the rainy season people find it very difficult to go to the offices owing to the river in the way ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the District Board of Ramnad applied for help to the Government to construct a bridge over the river, and the Government refused to grant any help ; and